# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:33
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
Socially Disadvantaged Students
Karandlaje Km. Shobha

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is finding it difficult to ensure sustained enrollment of socially disadvantaged students in higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a sharp decline in the rate of growth in enrollment of Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in higher education over the last three years, as per All India Survey of Higher Education, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government to increase the enrollment of SC and ST in higher education?

## Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): As per All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education of Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students over the last three years is as under:-
<pre>

GER in Higher Education (18-23 Years)
Year SC Students ST Students
2012-13 16.0 11.1
2013-14 17.1 11.3
2014-15(P) 18.5 13.3
P − Provisional. (Source − AISHE, MHRD)

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It can be seen from the above table that there is an increasing trend in GER of SC/ST students in higher education over the last four years.

(d): Government has taken several measures to increase the enrollment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in higher education. The University Grants Commission implements several schemes/measures such as Rajiv Gandhi National fellowships for SC/ST students, post-graduate scholarships for SC/ST students, post-doctoral fellowships for SC/ST students, coaching schemes for SC/ST students, establishment of Equal Opportunity Cells in universities and establishment of centres in universities for study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs have also scholarship schemes for SC/ST students like Post Matric scholarship for SC/ST students, Central Sector Scholarship Scheme of Top class Education for SC/ST students and National Overseas Scholarship for SC/ST students.

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